

Gender and Energy Workshop 2020

Speakers and Panelists

White Paper Presenter:



Victoria Plutshack

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Victoria Plutshack is a Policy Associate at the Duke University Energy Access Project in the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions. She undertook her PhD research at the University of Cambridge's Centre for Environment, Energy and Natural Resource Governance, where she used off grid solar enterprises in India as a lens through which to explore the symbiotic relationship between government and private, public and non-profit organizations. Using qualitative methods, her work rests between the literature on public administration, business studies and political economy. Victoria has an MPhil in Technology Policy from the University of Cambridge, where she focused on energy policy.

Keynote Speakers:



Monica Maduekwe

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Monica Maduekwe is a Program Officer at the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), where she led the work to develop the ECOWAS Policy for Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access. The policy, adopted by the Heads of State of the fifteen member states, commits West Africa to actions that promote women's participation in the energy sector. Maduekwe holds an MSc. in Energy Studies with a specialization in Energy and the Environment from the University of Dundee, Scotland.



Amber Peterman

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Amber Peterman is an Associate Research Professor in the Department of Public Policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her work focuses on the intersection of gender and development, with an emphasis on social protection and gender-based violence. Amber is currently affiliated with the Transfer Project and previously worked as a Social Policy Specialist at UNICEF Office of Research—Innocenti and as a Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington DC., Kampala, and Dakar.



Anita Shankar

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Anita Shankar, PhD, Associate Scientist at the Johns Hopkins University (JHU), Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Shankar's 25 years of research and program work has addressed a range of health and development issues including women's empowerment, GBV, maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition, and human resource capacity building. A current focus of her work is on the nexus of gender, energy and economic development and she is a lead author on the Empowered Entrepreneur training handbook. She serves as Executive Director of the Self-Empowerment and Equity for Change (SEE Change) Initiative at JHU that mobilizes global research and training solutions grounded in behavioral science and positive psychology to promote equity and prosperity worldwide.

Panelists:



Nilah Mitchell

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Nilah Mitchell is a gender and international development specialist with 8+ years of experience working with social enterprises, corporates, social investors and development agencies on inclusive business strategies and programs. Nilah leads the East Africa office of 60 Decibels, a tech-enabled social impact measurement and customer intelligence company, where she has a gender focus. Nilah has a BA in International Relations and Economics from Boston University and a MA in Gender Studies from SOAS, where she worked on gender mainstreaming, intersectional gender analysis, gender relations, and women's agency and decision-making power



Harriet Lamb

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Harriet joined Ashden as CEO in May 2019, taking responsibility for developing and implementing the organisation's ambitious new strategy to tackle climate change.

Harriet has been CEO at peacebuilding organisation International Alert and spent 15 years leading Fairtrade in the UK and globally. She has always worked for NGOs with a focus on international development, peace and the environment. She worked in the UK on refugee and low pay issues and lived in India for six years. Her book *Fighting the Banana Wars and Other Fairtrade Battles* was published in 2008, and she was appointed CBE in 2006. She is a cycling obsessive who loves gardening and walking her dog.



Annemarije Kooijman

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Ms Annemarije Kooijman leads the gender and energy research programme at ENERGIA. ENERGIA International Network on Gender and Energy, hosted by Hivos, The Netherlands, works with 38 partners in 18 countries in Asia, Africa and Europe, including CSOs, social enterprises, universities and research institutions. ENERGIA contributes to ensuring access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for men and women through its engagement in building evidence, supporting women-led micro enterprises, sharing knowledge and advocating for gender inclusive energy policies and practices. Annemarije is engaged in the management and coordination of research and research uptake in energy policy and practice. She has over 20 years of experience working at the intersection of sustainable energy and development, including at the Netherlands Energy Research Centre ECN and University of Twente. Annemarije holds an MSc in mechanical engineering and a PhD on productive uses of energy at the University of Twente.



Neha Juneja

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Neha Juneja is the co-founder of Greenway Appliances, India's largest manufacturer and distributor of clean cookstoves and other innovative products for the mass market. Neha is an Industrial Engineer and holds an MBA. She was recognized as one of India's most powerful women in business by Business Today & Economic Times. She was also awarded the Elle Impact Award in 2016, the L'Oreal Award for Science & Innovation and the Businessworld Young Entrepreneur. She is also a 2013 Echoing Green Fellow



Maurice Onzere

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Mr. Maurice is an accomplished Energy Advisor, Off-Grid Energy Access Expert, Gender and Livelihoods Development Expert and Business Development Services – BDS professional. Areas of Expertise include:

- Energy Advisory: Off-grid Solutions: Mini-grids: Cookstoves: Alternative Fuels
- Productive Energy Use
- Technical Support & Consultancy
- Investment Models: Financial Modelling.
- Building Resilient Market Systems
- Developing and Making Markets that Work for the Poor
- Training & Capacity building: Women & youth Empowerment
- Project Management & Coordination
- Program Monitoring & Evaluation
- Strategic Business Planning
- Policy Analysis & Formulation
- Research & Knowledge Management
- Sustainable livelihood initiatives: Economic Strengthening
- Donor Relations Management
- Micro-credit, Micro-savings,
- Enterprise Development
- Participatory Community Appraisal
- Leadership & Mentorship
- Problem & Conflict Resolution

Flash Talk Presenters:



Maximiliane Sievert

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Maximiliane Sievert is a specialist in applied research in the area of environmental economics with a focus on the relation between poverty and improved access to water, energy, and finance infrastructure. Maximiliane is deputy head of the research group “Climate Change in Developing Countries” at RWI Leibniz Institute for Economic Research, Germany. She has gathered extensive practical experience in leading studies of impact evaluation, including study design and implementation of household and enterprise surveys. Maximiliane has advised international organizations such as 3ie, FMO, GIZ, KfW, and RVO in Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda.



Logan Richardson

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Logan Richardson is a PhD student at NC State University in Forestry and Environmental Resources. She recently completed her second year of courses, which are primarily focused on economics and geospatial analytics. Logan is a graduate fellow of the Energy Poverty PIRE in Southern Africa research team where she has the opportunity to seek to understand the impact of strategies to improve access to modern energy services. She helped conduct fieldwork in Zambia focused on cookstove technologies last summer.



Phindile Nkosi

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Ms Nkosi is a PhD student in Economics at the University of Johannesburg. She is a solid, hardworking and motivated person that handles her work with great enthusiasm and diligence. Her excellent work translated to an award she received for her Master's degree where she was looking at the willingness to pay among households to avoid power outages. Her research interests include environmental economics, energy economics, economic development and health economics. She enjoys cycling during her spare time.



Romy Listo

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Romy Listo is a PhD Candidate at The University of Queensland, with the UQ Energy & Poverty Research Group and the School of Social Science. Her PhD research explores how women are collectively organising around energy access and systems, and the implications for empowerment in urban and peri-urban South Africa. Her academic background is in community and international development. In her other work, Romy is the project coordinator for a gender equality policy advocacy organisation in Australia with a focus on areas including sexual and reproductive health rights and gender-responsive budgeting and policy.



Dipendra Bhattarai

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Dipendra Bhattarai a researcher and practitioner have around a decade of experience in managing projects and conducting research related to renewable energy in South Asia and Southeast Asia. He is currently enrolled in PhD at University of Tasmania, Australia. His work on energy sector includes empirical analysis of subsidy distribution of rural off-grid energy, energy access, smart metering for off-grid technologies, RCT on solar water irrigation for rural households, climate adaptation measures on hydropower sector, assessed performance of mini-grids, market system development for improved cookstove and formulation of guidelines and project documents for rural electrification.



Alenjandra Scheuftan

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Alejandra Schueftan is an architect with a master's and PhD in Forestry. With vast experience in research on environmental issues related to the use of firewood in southern Chile, Alejandra is currently Regional Director of the Forestry Institute at Valdivia, a government funded research institution. She is also an assistant professor at the Master of Sustainable Architecture and Energy at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.



Rebecca Klege

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Rebecca Klege is a researcher at Environmental Research Policy Unit and recently completed her PhD studies at the School of Economics, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Her research interests include applied behavioral economics, energy, environmental and gender-related issues. She has adequate experience designing and implementing surveys and providing experimental solutions for environmental goods through behavioral nudges, lab experiments and randomized control trials in developing countries. She recently completed a five years energy project in rural Rwanda.



Imelda

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Imelda is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Economics Department at University Carlos III of Madrid. Her research explores the intersection of energy, health, and environmental economics, looking at how clean energy transition and policies can improve welfare and market outcomes. She completed her doctoral degree in Economics at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.



Ipsita Das

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Ipsita Das is a Research Scientist at Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy. As a quantitative social scientist, her research is at the intersection of environment, health and development. Her prior and ongoing research includes understanding drivers of environmental health adoption and long-term impacts of clean energy use on human well-being. She has substantial experience implementing field research in India, Malawi and Rwanda. At Duke, Ipsita is conducting cost-benefit analyses of clean cooking transitions in Kenya and Nepal, and co-leading an evaluation of solar mini-grids in Myanmar. Ipsita holds a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and a master of public policy from Duke University.



Sied Hassen

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Sied Hassen is currently employed as a senior research fellow at the Environment and Climate Research Center (ECRC), Policy Studies Institute in Addis Ababa Ethiopia. He is also a research fellow candidate for the European Investment Bank and Global Development Network (EIB-GDN) program in applied development finance. Sied received his PhD degree in economics from the University of Gothenburg in Sweden and he holds MPhil degree in Economics from Oslo University, Norway and BA degree in Economics from the Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. Prior to joining ECRC, Sied was working as lecturer and assistant professor at Mekelle University and Addis Ababa University. His areas of research are in Energy and Development Economics. Sied has published his research works in a number of reputable journals such as Energy Economics, Energy and Resource Economics, Energy policy and etc.



Jennifer Orgill Meyer

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Jennifer Orgill Meyer is an Assistant Professor of Public Health at Franklin and Marshall College. Her research focuses on the intersection of environment and development economics, and examines the contributors to and impacts of environmental-related health issues. She studies why households often show low demand for seemingly cost-effective technologies, what behaviors households use to cope with poor environmental quality, and how environmental health-related illnesses affect long-run human capital development. Her research to-date primarily focuses on water and sanitation issues but also explores topics such as water supply, energy access, climate change mitigation and adaptation, poverty, and gender.
